

WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1963.





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Westhoughton Urban District Council.

Public Health Committee.

Chairman: Councillor F. Woods.

Vice Chairman: Councillor H. P. James.

Councillors:-

R. Greenhalgh.

H. Booth.

W. Kelly.

C. Howarth.

J. Smith.

Mrs W. Kettle.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health:

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

Wilson Scott Astall

R.S.H. Certificates  
Public Health Inspector.  
Meat and Other Foods and  
Smoke Inspector.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

Walter F. Maling

R.S.H. Certificates  
Public Health Inspector  
and Meat and Other Foods.

Clerical Assistant:

Miss A. Sharrock.

Cleansing Foreman:

Albert Chadwick.





To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present, for your information and consideration, the Annual Report on the Health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District of Westhoughton, for the year 1963.

STATISTICS

The estimated population of the district in 1963 was 16,920, an increase of 300 on the figure ascertained for 1962.

During the year a total of 318 births were registered, of which 4 were still born, so that the Live Birth Rate for the year under review is 18.6 as against 17.7 the previous year, and the Still Birth Rate 12.6 as against 20.0 in 1962.

Thirteen infants failed to survive to their first birthday, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 41.4 for the year, compared with seven deaths and a rate of 23.8 in the previous year.

I am pleased to be able to report that there has been no maternal death. The Maternal Mortality Rate, therefore, remains at nil.

The number of deaths, from all causes, was 210 giving a Crude Death Rate of 12.4 and an adjusted rate of 13.4

HEALTH SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council, through its Divisional Health Scheme, 1947, has continued to provide the personal health services in the district, details of which will be found in Section B of the Report, together with certain essential information in regard to other services.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

During the year the sanitary circumstances in the district have been kept under close observation. A survey of nine hundred houses in connection with the Town Map and Compulsory Purchase Order Inquiry, held in October, showed generally a good standard of housing in the district. All houses have piped water supply from the mains and about 99% of dwellings have a fresh water closet.

The Westhoughton (No. 1) Smoke Control Order came into operation on 1st July, 1963, and consisted of approximately 280 houses, including 44 council houses in the Daisy Hill part of the district and 236 privately owned houses forming the Star Homes Estate.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES (cont'd.)

Many inspections of food premises were carried out during the year and structural improvements initiated. The constant need for cleanliness; protection of food from risk of contamination and personal hygiene in dealing with food, remains of first class importance. Clean habits such as hand washing after using the toilet, start at an early age in the home and every member of the community has a part to play in the prevention of food borne diseases.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year.

Details of the various diseases concerned, will be found in Section F of the report.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.



Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area of the district in acres	-	5,554
Population - 1961 census	-	16,620
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of year	-	5,798
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	-	£1,810

<u>BIRTHS</u>		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
(a)	<u>Live Births</u> - Legitimate	154	151	305
	Illegitimate	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>9</u>
		159	155	314
	Live Birth Rate (Per 1,000 population) -		18.6	
(b)	<u>Still Births</u>	2	2	4
	Still Birth Rate (Per 1,000 total births) -		12.6	
(c)	<u>Total Live and Still Births</u>	161	157	318

(a)	Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	-	13
(b)	Infant Mortality Rates		
	Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	-	41.4
	Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births		41.4
	Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births		Nil
(c)	Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births.)		15.9
(d)	Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births.)		15.9

DEATHS (cont'd.)

(e) Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.) 28.3

(f) Maternal Mortality

Number of deaths Nil

Maternal Mortality Rate (deaths per 1,000 total live and stillbirths.) Nil

(g) Cancer 25

(h) Measles Nil

(i) Whooping Cough Nil

(j) Bronchitis 19

(k) Pneumonia 11

(l) Tuberculosis - Pulmonary 1

Non-Pulmonary Nil

(m) All Causes:-

Male 122

Female 88

Total 210

Death Rate (per 1,000 population)

(a) Crude 12.4

(b) Adjusted 13.4

Birth and Death Rates, together with Case Rates for certain Infectious Diseases for England and Wales for the year, 1963, with corresponding figures for Westhoughton.

		Rates per 1,000 Home Population	
		England and Wales.	Westhoughton.
<u>BIRTHS:-</u>			
Live Births		18.2	18.6.
Still Births		17.3 (a)	12.6. (a)
<u>DEATHS:-</u>			
All Causes		12.2	12.4
Tuberculosis (all forms)		0.063	0.059
Respiratory		0.056	0.059
Non-Respiratory		0.007	Nil
Cancer (all forms)		2.18	1.47.
Lungs and Bronchus		0.52	0.23
Other Cancer		1.66	1.24
Maternal Mortality		0.28 (a)	Nil (a)
Infant Mortality		20.9 (b)	41.4 (b)
Neo-natal Mortality		14.2 (b)	15.9 (b)
<u>NOTIFICTIONS (Corrected)</u>			
Typhoid Fever		0.005	Nil
Paratyphoid Fever		0.007	Nil
Meningococcal Infection		0.013	Nil
Scarlet Fever		0.371	0.76
Whooping Cough		0.739	0.88
Diphtheria		0.001	Nil
Erysipelas		0.037	Nil
Smallpox		Nil	Nil
Measles		12.783	6.14
Acute Pneumonia		0.301	Nil
Acute Poliomyelitis:-			
Paralytic		0.001	Nil
Non-Paralytic		Nil	Nil
Acute Encephalitis:-			
Infective		0.003	Nil
Post-Infectious		0.004	Nil
Dysentery		0.675	Nil
Food Poisoning		0.125	Nil
Puerperal Pyrexia		0.138	Nil
Tuberculosis:-			
Respiratory		0.348	0.17
Meninges and C.N.S.		0.003	Nil
Other		Nil	0.11

(a) Per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 Live Births.

The following is a statement showing comparative statistics for the year 1958 - 1963.

	Live Births	Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality.		Infant Mortality				
		No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births	Neo-natal		
										No. of regis- tered deaths	Rate per 1,000 live births.	
Year 1963	314	18.6	210	13.4	4	12.6	Nil	Nil	13	41.4	5	15.9
Year 1962	294	17.7	199	14.1	6	20.0	Nil	Nil	7	23.8	3	10.2
Year 1961	246	15.7	213	14.5	4	16.0	Nil	Nil	2	8.1	2	8.1
Year 1960	251	16.7	192	14.0	12	45.6	Nil	Nil	4	8.0	1	4.0
Year 1959	214	14.4	179	13.1	4	18.3	Nil	Nil	6	23.4	1	4.7
Year 1958	226	15.4	157	11.7	6	25.9	Nil	Nil	5	13.3	2	8.8
Average 5 yrs. 1958 - 1962	246	16.0	186	13.5	6.4	25.1	Nil	Nil	4.8	15.3	1.8	7.1



SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services  
for the area.

Divisional Medical Officer.

Ellis Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
No. 11 Divisional Health Office,  
Lancashire County Council,  
Leigh Road,  
LEIGH, Lancashire.

Telephone: Leigh 73227/8/9.

Ambulance Service

Control Centre

Telephone: Swinton 4343

Care of Children - Children Act 1948

Children's Committee, Lancs. C.C. - Area 11.

Area Children's Officer

- Miss J.L. Edwards,  
Williams Deacon's Bank Chambers,  
Market Street, Leigh.  
Telephone: Leigh 72207

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

Telephone: Westhoughton 3139.

Clinics.

1. Antenatal and Postnatal.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

Alternate weeks - Friday 2.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

2. Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisation and Smallpox Vaccination.

(a) General Practitioner Service.

(b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Thursday 1.30 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

3. Child Welfare.

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

Tuesday and Thursday 2.0 p.m. - 4.0 p.m.

4. Vaccination against Poliomyelitis.

(a) General Practitioner Service.

(b) Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Monday 10.00 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

The following table gives the number of deaths from the various causes, during the year - 1963.

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	4	-	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	6	13
Leukaemia aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	13	22
Coronary disease, angina	27	8	35
Hypertension with heart disease	2	5	7
Other heart disease	10	14	24
Other circulatory disease	9	8	17
Influenza	-	2	2
Pneumonia	6	5	11
Bronchitis	14	5	19
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	1	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	-	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	9	19
Motor Vehicle accidents	3	-	3
All other accidents	7	3	10
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of war	-	-	-
Total	122	88	210

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS

No material change



5. Ophthalmic (by appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Wednesday - 9.0 a.m.

6. Chiropody (by appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Monday and Wednesday 9.30 a.m.

7. Orthopaedic (by appointment)

School Health Clinic, Jones Street, Horwich.  
1st Wednesday each month.

8. Relaxation and Exercises Class for Expectant Mothers

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Tuesday 10.0 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

9. Hearing Testing (by appointment)

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.

10. Dental

Welfare Centre, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Wednesday and Thursday 9.0 a.m.

11. Day Nurseries

There are four nurseries in the division intended primarily for children from nine months to five years, whose mothers have to go out to work because of difficult social circumstances. Application forms may be obtained from the Matron of each of the nurseries, details of which are as follows:- LEIGH - Stone House, St. Helens Road, (Leigh 72858); Cavendish Street (Leigh 73586); ATHERTON - Gloucester Street (Atherton 248); FARNWORTH - Piggott Street (Farnworth 503.)

12. Family Planning Clinics

Information regarding these Clinics is obtainable from the Divisional Health Office.

13. School Health and Minor Ailment

School Health Clinic, Market Street, Westhoughton.  
Monday 9.30 a.m.

14. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic

- (a) The Infirmary, Leigh. (Telephone: Leigh 73344.)
- (b) 33, Darley Street, Farnworth. (Telephone: Farnworth 63.)

15. Venereal Diseases

Confidential treatment is available at the following Clinics:-

- (a) Civic Centre, Bolton.
- (b) St. Luke's Clinic, Duke Street, Liverpool Road, Manchester 3.
- (c) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.
- (d) Leigh Infirmary, Leigh.

Convalescence

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh. Sick bed nursing requisites and appliances are available free on loan from the Divisional Health Office or District Nurses - Mrs Hulme, 6, Washacre, Westhoughton, (Telephone: Westhoughton 3384) Mrs. Barge, 1, Clough Avenue, Westhoughton. (Telephone: Westhoughton 3323.)

Convalescent Treatment

Under arrangements made by the Regional Hospital Board.

Health Visiting Service

Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed full time by the Lancs. C.C. in the district.

Home Help Service

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C. Apply to the Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Home Nursing Service

District Nurses are employed full time in the District by the Lancs. C.C.

Hospitals

Royal Infirmary, Bolton;  
Bolton District General Hospital, Farnworth.

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan; and other general and infectious disease hospitals situated in the area of the Regional Hospital Board.

Laboratory Facilities

Regional Hospital Laboratory facilities at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries and the Public Health Laboratory, Manchester.

### Maternity Homes

"Haslam," "Havercroft" and "Heaton Grange" Maternity Homes, Bolton.  
"Firs" Maternity Home, Leigh.

### Mental Health

This service is a most important part of the new Health Service, and on application to the Divisional Health Office, information and help can be obtained in respect of the mentally sick and mentally subnormal.

### Midwifery Service

Two full-time domiciliary midwives are employed in the district by the Lancs. C.C. The midwife resident in Westhoughton is Mrs A. M. Birch, 22, Winslow Road, Westhoughton. (Telephone: Westhoughton 2057.)

### Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancs. C.C.

### Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by the Lancs. C.C., residential accommodation for aged or infirm persons is available at Atherleigh Grange and Hourigan House, Leigh, and the Winifred Kettle House, Westhoughton, and Wilfred Geese House, Farnworth.

### Old Peoples Voluntary Welfare Committee

This body, consisting of representatives of all local voluntary organisations interested in the care and welfare of the aged, works in close association with the statutory services. Amongst the many services it organises and provides, are visiting, chiropody and meals on wheels. The Hon. Secretary is Mrs P. Sutton, 26, Hunts Bank, Westhoughton.

### X-ray Facilities

Available at the Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries. Special facilities for chest X-ray at the Hospital Board's Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.



## SECTION C.

### Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

#### Water Supply.

Bolton Corporation supply Westhoughton with water which is satisfactory in regard to quality and quantity. There are several sources of supply, but the larger quantity comes from the Lake District. All water is treated before passing into supply.

During the year a total number of 351 samples of raw water were submitted by Bolton to bacteriological examination and chemical analysis in their statutory area of supply. In addition, 851 samples of filtered and treated water received bacteriological examination, 943 partial chemical analysis and 43 full chemical analysis. The results showed that the filtered and treated water was of a satisfactory quality. Tests showed the natural fluoride content of the Thirlmere water supply forming the main source of the Westhoughton supply to be 0.1 - 0.2 parts per million.

Weekly tests of the water show there is no significant plumbo-solvent action. No action was required to be taken in respect of any form of contamination. There are 5,911 houses supplied directly from the public mains serving the total population of 16,920 persons. No houses are supplied by stand pipes.

During the year 787 yards of new water mains were completed.

#### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

This is largely on the combined system. There is one main sewage disposal plant at Rogers Farm and three subsidiary plants at Dicconson Lane, Dog Holes Farm and Marsh Brook. Arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal are becoming inadequate in view of development in the district and improved arrangements will need to be made if further development of the district should proceed.

#### Closet Accommodation

The last two waste water closets in regular use were converted during the year to fresh water closets, the Owners receiving a grant of £22 10s. -d., towards the cost. A few pail closets are in use where main drainage is not available and certain outlying farms use privy middens. It is anticipated these will be replaced by water closets as the district develops.

### Closet Accommodation (cont'd.)

Numbers and types of closet accommodation existing at the end of 1963, are shown below, the figures for the end of 1962 being shown in comparison:-

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962.</u>
Number of Privy Middens	23	23
Number of closets attached to these middens	27	27
Number of Pail Closets	45	45
Number of Dry Ashpits	-	-
Number of Moveable Ashbins	6,753	6,350
Number of Trough Closets	-	-
Number of Waste Water Closets	12	14
Number of Fresh Water Closets	6,544	6,389

#### Conversions during 1963:-

Number of Privy Closets to Fresh W.C.'s.	-
Number of Privy Closets to Pails	-
Number of Waste Water Closets to Fresh Water Closets	2
Number of premises at which moveable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	-
Trough Closets to Washdown Pedestals	-
Number of Pail Closets to Fresh W.C.'s.	-

### Public Cleansing

Refuse Collection and Disposal is carried out by the Local Authority under the supervision of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Twenty men and four vehicles are employed in emptying weekly about 6,753 bins; collecting waste paper for salvage from shops and also other trade refuse. Three of the refuse vehicles are Fore and Aft Tippers and the fourth vehicle is of the side loading type used for miscellaneous work.

Controlled tipping of refuse continues at the Warcock Hill site and two men are permanently employed on this work. It is anticipated that when tipping commences on a new site, mechanical equipment for handling the refuse will be used.

A total of 410 dustbins were issued during the year under the dustbin replacement scheme, which becomes a charge on the General Rate Fund. Bins are now purchased having rubber lids as an anti-noise measure and appear to be popular.

Street cleansing is carried out under the supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor and a purpose made vehicle is used for mechanical sweeping.

## Salvage

The collection of waste paper and tins was as follows:-

	<u>Waste Paper</u>	<u>Loose Tins</u>	<u>Income</u>
1963	95 tons 15 cwts.	21 tons 8 cwts.	£573
1962	93 tons 10 cwts.	26 tons 10 cwts.	£581

Tins have continued to be removed from the tip in the normal process of controlled tipping.

## Public Health Inspections

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>
Premises visited	2,389	1,148
Number of visits:-	4,928	3,951
Housing and Nuisances	2,980	1,534
Factories	84	106
Infectious Diseases	13	20
Rodent Control	7	14
Offensive Trade	32	53
Schools	24	20
Shops	489	498
Slaughterhouses	151	142
Food Premises	521	344
Clean Air	542	969
Miscellaneous	85	251
Defects or Nuisances:-		
Number discovered	718	969
Number abated	349	1,093
No. of Notices Served:		
Informal	240	192
Statutory	19	36

Inspection of food premises in relation to food hygiene and of dwelling houses in relation to fitness for habitation and smoke control occupied a good deal of the time of the Inspectors. Fewer defects were recorded and remedied due to a temporary slackening of the slum clearance programme.

It is true to say that many of the grosser public health nuisances no longer exist but the legitimate desire of the Public to live in a clean and healthy environment means that higher standards are expected. Health Education and routine inspection, therefore, go hand in hand.



## Outwork

There were four outworkers employed in the district packing xmas crackers.

## Shops and Offices

There were 489 inspections of shops carried out during the year on behalf of the Lancashire County Council. Individual contraventions of the Shops Act, 1950, relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary accommodation noted on these inspections were dealt with informally and remedied.

Fifteen inspections of offices were carried out during the year, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 and contraventions were dealt with informally and remedied.

## Offensive Trades

Thirty-two inspections of a fat melters premises were carried out and further improvements to odour control plant made.

## Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

## Swimming Baths and Pools

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district.

## Disinfestation

During the year insect infestations were dealt with at twenty-two premises. Fourteen premises were treated against cockroach infestation using dieldrin powder or insecticidal lacquer; one dwelling was sprayed as a result of bug infestation with a solution of D.D.T./Pyrethrum. Two silver fish, three spider beetles and two infestations of crickets were also successfully treated.

Precautionary spraying of all houses vacated under the Council's Clearance Programme, was carried out and four houses were dealt with during the year.

## Schools

The water supply to the schools in the area was found to be constant and sufficient. All schools now have modern type water closets and twenty four inspections were carried out during the year. Regular cleansing and decoration of the conveniences is carried out.

## Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no premises in the area where rag flock is manufactured, used or sold.

## Rodent Control

During 1963, the work of rodent control continued, the Cleansing Foreman carrying out treatment.

All rat and mice infestations are promptly dealt with, private dwellings without conditions conducive to infestation, being treated free of charge. Treatment of business premises is charged on a basis of men's time and materials used.

One hundred and fifty-nine premises were inspected and five hundred and twenty-five visits made to property either for the purposes of survey or for dealing with infestations. Eighty-two rat infestations and twenty-seven mice infestations were found and treatment carried out. Ninety-nine inspections of agricultural properties were undertaken in the course of the year. The treatment of the sewers using warfarin poison plus a bait preservative, was carried out as usual.

## Moveable Dwellings

Little action was necessary in relation to moveable dwellings. Advice was given when required, to members of the Public, on the conditions normally imposed on sites licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. One farm site was licensed during the year for the use of one caravan.

## CLEAN AIR

### Smoke Control

The Westhoughton (No. 1) Smoke Control Order came into operation on 1st July, 1963, and consists of approximately two hundred and eighty dwelling houses in the Daisy Hill district of Westhoughton. This is the second Smoke Control Order to come into operation in Westhoughton. In total, therefore, about five hundred and ninety houses are subject to smoke control.

During December, the Council were informed, by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, that changes in the gas industry meant that gas coke could no longer be regarded as the main replacement for raw coal in future smoke control areas. It was emphasised that gas coke would continue to be available for existing areas and that in some cases it would be available for future areas, depending upon the local supply position. Better grants of up to 7/10ths of the cost of closed and openable stoves, gas fires and electric storage heaters, would be made available for conversions in future areas where gas coke is not available.

Undoubtedly, the modern trend in domestic heating is for higher efficiency appliances which are more economical and labour saving. Central heating in new property is becoming almost commonplace. Smoke control can, therefore, give the householder the opportunity of converting the relatively inefficient open fire to a higher efficiency appliance giving increased standards of comfort.

## Smoke Control (cont'd.)

The need for clean air remains both on grounds of health and cleanliness and amenity. Ways and means may alter, but the control of pollution from the domestic chimney is essential whether it be by changing to gas, electric, oil appliances or the increased use of hard coke burning stoves and under-floor draught fires.

Sixty-one observations of industrial chimneys were carried out during the year and informal action taken where necessary.

## Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution

The table and graph on page 19 show the atmospheric pollution from smoke and sulphur dioxide. The results are obtained from daily readings taken at the Library Street Site and show principally the pollution within half a mile radius of that point. Whilst the average daily figures are broadly comparable with those for 1962, the highest daily readings are somewhat smaller. It can again be seen from the graph how pollution rises to a peak in the winter and falls in the summer when less coal is burnt. Where the table shows a high smoke/SO<sub>2</sub> ratio, it indicates that the pollution is predominantly from domestic chimneys. It will be seen, therefore, that for the majority of the year the greater part of pollution in this area comes from domestic sources.

The average yearly smoke concentration for 1963 was 217 microgrammes per cubic metre, which is again somewhat higher than the expected concentration of  $150 \pm 40$  microgrammes per cubic metre for areas with a similar population density.



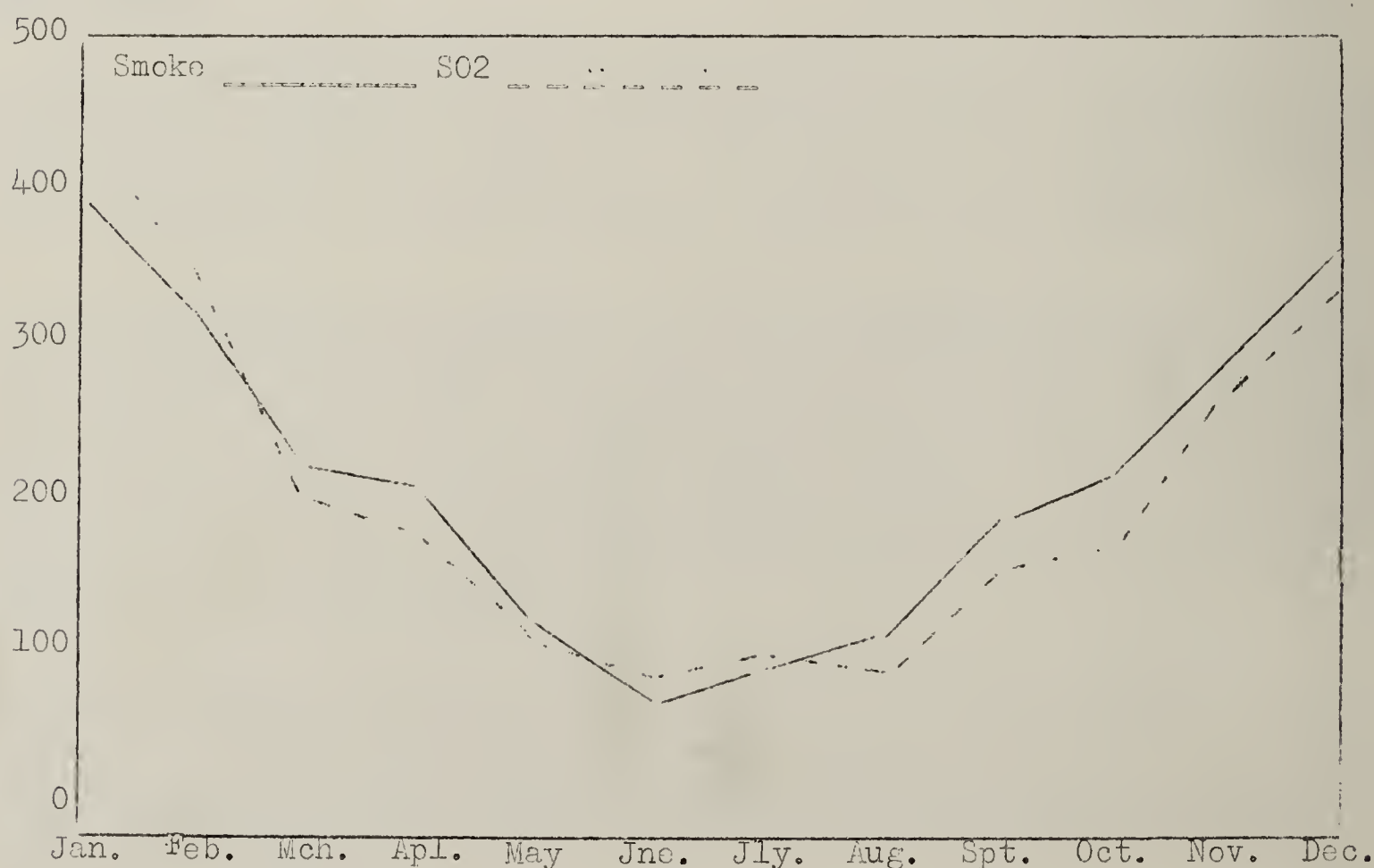
# Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution for Year 1963

A = The Daily Average in Microgrammes per cubic metre of air.

HD = The Highest Daily Reading of the Month.

MONTH	SMOKE		SULPHUR DIOXIDE		RATIO SMOKE/SO <sub>2</sub> .
	A	HD	A	HD	
January	386	940	430	1166	.90
February	339	564	362	557	.94
March	223	611	206	505	1.08
April	215	629	196	691	1.09
May	130	268	111	200	1.17
June	69	149	90	185	.77
July	96	158	101	209	.95
August	112	209	95	205	1.18
September	182	366	150	286	1.21
October	224	504	161	368	1.39
November	285	625	254	605	1.12
December	345	864	334	819	1.03

JANUARY - DECEMBER, 1963.



## SECTION D.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### Milk Supply

Dairy Farmers are now registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. All dairy herds in Westhoughton are now attested and free from tuberculosis.

All milk supplied to schools is heat treated.

Under the provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, dealers licences to sell Tuberculin Tested; Pasteurised or Sterilized Milk, are now issued by the Lancashire County Council, who are the Food and Drugs Authority for the Area. The necessity remains for dairies other than dairy farms and milk distributors other than dairy farmers to be registered by the Local Authority under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

All milk sold by retail for human consumption in the district, must be specially designated milk in accordance with provisions of the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1954.

Action taken by the local authority in relation to samples taken in the district:-

#### a) Raw Milk

(i) Tuberculosis - biological test.

No. of samples . . . 15 . . . . . No. negative . . . . 15 . . . . . No. positive . . . . . NIL

(ii) Brucellosis - Ring Test.

No. of samples . . . . . 20 . . . . . No. negative . . . . . 11 . . . . . No. positive . . . . . 9

Brucellosis - Culture Test.

No. of samples . . . . . 20 . . . . . No. negative . . . . . 18 . . . . . No. positive . . . . . 2

(iii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

No. of samples . . . . . 39 . . . . . No. satisfactory . . . . . 36 . . . . . No. unsatisfactory . . . . . 3

#### b) "Heat Treated" Milk - Pasteurised.

(i) Phosphatase Test.

No. of samples . . . 11 . . . . . No. satisfactory . . . . 11 . . . . . No. unsatisfactory . . . . . NIL

b) "Heat Treated" Milk - Pasteurised (cont'd.)

ii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test.

No. of samples: 11 No. satisfactory 11 No. unsatisfactory NIL

c) "Sterilized"

Four samples of milk submitted to the "Turbidity" Test proved satisfactory.

Milk from two cows which proved positive on a culture test for brucellosis was sent for pasteurisation. The affected animals were shortly afterwards sent for slaughter.

Unsatisfactory Methylene Blue Reduction Tests which relate to the keeping quality of milk, were reported to the County Milk Production Officer for action.

No. of notifications of tuberculous milk forwarded to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture, and Fisheries in respect of:-

- a) Milk produced in the district. -
- b) Milk produced in other districts. -

Result of Ministry investigations within the district during the year arising from notifications by the local authority:-

No. of veterinary inspections -

No. of cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938 -

No. of animals seized -

No. of cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigations -

No. of cases reported negative, no animals seized -

Ice-Cream

Seventy two premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, which is "pre-packed" with the exception of one shop selling a "Cold mix" product.

Twenty-six samples of ice-cream were taken during the year and twenty were found to be in the provisional Grade I, and six samples Grade II.

Ninety-four inspections in relation to premises and vehicles were carried out during the year.

Shell Fish

No cases of illness due to consumption of shell fish were reported.



## Food Premises

No. of food premises, by type of business, in district at end of year:-

Type of business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers. . . . .	76
Greengrocers and fruiterers (incl. those selling wet fish, game etc.)	11
Fishmongers (incl. those selling poultry, game etc.).. . . .	2
Meat Shops . . . . .	15
Bakers and/or confectioners . . . . .	20
Fried Fish shops . . . . .	11
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream etc.	7
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, snack bars. . . . .	44

Regular inspection of food shops, canteens, clubs and licensed premises, were carried out and a total of 321 visits made to food premises during the year. Ninety items requiring attention during the year were remedied by the co-operation of food traders.

### Meat

All carcasses and offal of animals slaughtered in the district are inspected prior to sale. No premises are licensed to slaughter horses. Two private slaughterhouses are now licensed and in operation.

Because of difficulty in obtaining a new site for a slaughterhouse, the appointed day by which all slaughterhouses operating in the district must comply with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, has been fixed for 1st July, 1965.

During the year Meat Inspection Regulations came into force requiring compulsory meat inspection and meat marking by Local Authorities.

# Meat (cont'd)

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part during 1963:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	173	Nil	Nil	359	47
Number inspected	173	Nil	Nil	359	47
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	17	Nil	Nil	9	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.	10%	Nil	Nil	2.5%	19%
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Percentage of the number affected with Tuberculosis	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

## Food Condemned

The following foodstuffs were condemned and surrendered:-

Tinned Meat	720 tins	Pickles	12 lbs.
Tinned Fruit	914 tins	Tinned Fish	104 tins
Tinned Vegetables	520 tins	Tinned Soup	340 tins
Tinned Rice Pudding	98 tins	Tinned Milk	30 tins
Cooking Fat	56 lbs.	Fruit Juice	38 lbs.
Baking Powder	15 lbs.	Sultanas	30 lbs.
Pudding Mixture	16 lbs.	Jam	112 lbs.
Spaghetti	12 lbs.	Biscuits	14 lbs.
		Sweets	42 lbs.

### Food Condemned (cont'd.)

The total weight of food condemned excluding meat at Slaughterhouses, was 1 ton 12 cwt.

Condemned meat is removed by arrangement and disposed of locally in Concentrators, for conversion to fertilizers and tinned food is buried, under supervision, at the Council's controlled tip.

### Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority in the district. The County Medical Officer of Health, has kindly supplied me with the following information:-

A total of 86 samples was obtained, consisting of 55 samples of milk and 31 others comprising:-

1 Boracic acid powder B.P.	1 Headache powder.
1 Ice-cream.	1 Tea.
1 Milk shake powder	1 Table salt.
1 Trifle pack	2 Dried vegetables.
1 Epsom salts, purified.	1 Hydrogen peroxide B.P.
1 Pork sausage.	1 Gelusil tablets.
1 Ginger concentrate.	1 Dried fruit.
1 Oatmeal.	3 Sweets.
2 Scup, canned.	1 Ground almonds.
1 Flour confectionery	1 Arrowroot.
1 Antacid powder	2 Fresh fruit.
1 Canned vegetables	1 Soup mixture, dry.
1 Scup, dried.	1 Flour confectionery - Jam and Cream Cake.

Below, are details of samples upon which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Milk	Fat 2.95% deficient 1.6% fat.	Farmer notified.
1 Pork sausage	Contained 120 parts per million sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) without declaration.	Vendor cautioned.
1 Milk	Freezing point indicated 1.0% extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (cont'd.)

<u>Type of Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Ground almonds	Acid value of extracted oil 6.5 Stale flavour.	Stock examined with view to withdrawal.
1 Flour confectionery (Jam and cream cake)	Cream contained 26% fat, of which not more than 1.5% was milk fat. (The cake should not, therefore, be sold as a Jam and Cream Cake.)	Vendor cautioned. Further sample obtained.
1 Soup mixture, dry.	Barley present in greater amount than lentils, which appeared first in list of ingredients on label. Ingredients should be listed in order in which they are used.	Packer notified.



## SECTION E.

### Housing.

#### Statistics

One hundred and sixty three houses were completed during the year by private builders. While no Council dwellings were completed this year, sixteen, one bedroom flats were under construction.

#### Conditions - General Observations

1,215 dwellings in Westhoughton are owned and maintained by the Council. The proportion of modern housing accommodation is steadily rising as new development continues. Houses in private ownership, which become vacant, are not usually re-let and the number of Owner/Occupiers is increasing. Where houses have a satisfactory life of at least 15 years, every encouragement is given by the Council for improvements to be made, particularly in relation to bathroom facilities.

#### Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

There were 303 applicants on the Council's Housing List and of these 80 householders and 57 lodgers desired houses and 144 householders and 22 lodgers desired bungalow accommodation.

66 householders requesting bungalows are Council House Tenants.

#### Fitness of Houses

Two thousand eight hundred and seventy inspections were carried out during the year in relation to the fitness of houses. Defects were remedied at 96 houses as a result of the service of notices or other action by the Department. The number and type of defects found and remedied by the end of the year is shown below:-

Type of Defects at Dwelling Houses	Found	Remedied.
Drains	94	93
Roofs	20	10
Chimneys	9	4
Eavesgutters	19	9
Rainwater pipes	15	6
Walls	29	4
Damp	21	10
Wallplaster	67	18
Ceiling plaster	33	9
Sinks	5	4
Sink Waste	11	2
Skirtings	-	-
Floors	35	13

Fitness of Houses (cont'd.)

Type of Defects at Dwelling Houses.	Found	Remedied
Stairs	3	1
Windows	61	24
Ventilation	8	-
Doors	21	3
Food Storage	6	1
Food Preparation	-	-
Food Cooking	-	-
Lighting (Natural)	8	1
Firegrates	6	2
Closets	34	24
Yards and Passages	19	9
Other Defects.	2	1
Total	<u>541</u>	<u>259</u>

120 houses included on the Council's present five year Slum Clearance Programme (1961/1965) remain to be cleared. 35 of these houses are already subject to demolition or clearance orders and tenants are awaiting rehousing.

Two applications for Discretionary Improvement grants were received by the Council and approved and work was completed at three houses by the end of the year.

Standard Grants, which provide for the provision of five standard amenities, i.e. a fixed bath or shower; a wash-hand basin; a hot water supply; a water closet and satisfactory food storage facilities, were approved for fifteen dwellings and work was completed in 12 cases. The amount of grant in these cases is half the actual cost of the work, subject to a maximum of £155, where the five standard amenities are provided. Owners are urged, where practical, to take advantage of these grants to provide their property with modern amenities.



## SECTION F.

### Prevelence of, and Control Over Infectious and other Diseases

#### Diphtheria

No case occurred in the district. The need to continue immunisation, however, remains.

#### Dysentery

No case was notified.

#### Erysipelas

No case was notified.

#### Food Poisoning

This disease is notifiable under Section 26 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. No cases were reported during the year.

#### Measles

A total of 104 notifications were received.

#### Meningococcal Infection

No case notified.

#### Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever

No case was notified.

#### Acute Pneumonia

No case was notified.

#### Poliomyelitis

No case reported. The need to continue vaccination, however, remains.

#### Puerperal Pyrexia

No case notified.

#### Scarlet Fever.

Thirteen cases occurred as against one in 1962. Again this disease was mild in character and no complications were reported.

Smallpox

No case or contact reported.

Tuberculosis.

Three new cases of respiratory and two of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year, and eleven cases were reported as recovered and removed from the register.

Whooping Cough.

Fifteen cases of whooping cough were notified during the year.

Corrected cases of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis)  
notified during the year, 1963.

	Total Cases all ages.	Under 1	Cases notified.							Age Unkno- wn.	Total Deaths	Cases remo- ved to Hosp- ital
			1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over		
Diphtheria	-										-	-
Dysentery	-										-	-
Acute Infectious Encephalitis	-										-	-
Erysipelas	-										-	-
Food Poisoning	-										-	-
Measles	104	3	30	32	37	2					-	-
Meningococcal Infection.	-										-	-
Acute Pneumonia	-										3	-
Polioccephalitis	-										-	-
Poliomyelitis	-										-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-										-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-										-	-
Scarlet Fever	13	-	2	2	8	1					-	-
Small Pox	-										-	-
Whooping Cough	15	-	3	3	8						1	-
Total	132	3	35	37	53	3	-	-	-	-	1	3

Tuberculosis.

New Cases and Mortality during 1963.

Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1								
5								
10								
15								
20				1				
25	1	1	1					
35								
45								
55	1							
65							1	
and over								
	2	1	1	1	-	-	1	-
	3		2		-		1	

Number of cases on Register at end of year:-

Respiratory Tuberculosis: 30

Non-Respiratory Tuberculosis: 11



SECTION G.

Factories Act, 1961.

Visits to factories during the year showed that standards of sanitary accommodation are generally satisfactory. Co-operation with firms was good and legal action to enforce the provisions of the Factories Act was found unnecessary. Cotton Spinning and Weaving; Steel Erecting; Metal Box Manufacture; Manufacturing Chemists; Paint; Raincoat and Plasterboard Manufacture are the chief industries in the area.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.)

Premises. (1)	Number on register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	4	NIL	NIL
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	77	80	1	NIL
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding out-workers premises.)	9	9	NIL	NIL
	90	93	1	NIL

Factories Act, 1961 (cont'd.)

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Defects (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H. M. Insp. (4)	By H. M. Insp. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2.)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
b) Unsuitable or defective	3	2	-	1	-
c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out work.)	-	-	-	-	-
	3	2	-	1	-

Part VIII of the Act - Four outworkers are employed in the district.

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out workers in August list required by Sec. 110(1)C. (2)	No. of defaults in send- ing lists to the Council. (3)	No. of prosecu- tions for failure to supply lists. (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises. (5)	Notices Served (6)	Prosecu- tions. (7)
Packing Xmas Crackers	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Garment Manufacture	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



